

in May, 1842. He received his education in public school in the country and in a private school in Colesburg taught by Rev. T. H. Crider, a Cumberland Presbyterian minister. He farmed in that neighborhood until 1876 when he purchased a farm near West Union and removed there where he remained until about 1905 when he removed to West Union. He was elected representative in 1885 and served in the Twenty-first General Assembly, being elected as a Democrat, although the county was Republican. He served one term as member of the Board of Supervisors of Fayette County, 1902-04. He also served in other positions, justice of the peace, member of the school board, chairman of the Democratic County Committee, etc. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church for sixty-six years, and twice represented the Du-buque presbytery in the general assembly of the Presbyterian church.

---

DAVID SPENCER SMITH was born May 27, 1845, and died in Council Bluffs, Iowa, April 12, 1935. Burial was in Walnut Hill Cemetery, Council Bluffs. He was brought by relatives to Council Bluffs at eight years of age and grew up and was educated in the public schools of that city. He began teaching at an early age in the Council Bluffs schools and taught some years. He studied law under Lewis W. Ross of Council Bluffs and was admitted to the bar in 1866. For thirteen years he was secretary of the Council Bluffs School Board. He was associated in the practice of law for years with George Carson as Smith & Carson, later Smith, Carson & Harl, Charles M. Harl joining the firm. On April 5, 1887, Governor Larrabee appointed him a member of the Railroad Commission of the state and he served efficiently for six years. He then resumed his law practice. He was interested financially for a few years in the *Council Bluffs Nonpareil*, was its business manager for a time, and was its editor about eighteen months, but his principal work during his long life was the practice of law, in which he won and maintained an honorable position. He was held in high esteem for his integrity and character.

---

LEWIS J. NEFF was born in Livingston County, Illinois, September 21, 1868, and died in a hospital in Omaha, Nebraska, June 8, 1933. Burial was in the cemetery at Walnut, Iowa. He was with his parents, John H. and Phebe A. Neff, when they removed to a farm in Monroe Township, Shelby County, Iowa, when he was five years old. He attended rural and Walnut public schools and helped his father on the farm. He was graduated from Western Normal School, Shenandoah, Highland Park College, and Drake University, working his way through them by teaching. He taught school or superintended schools for seven years, and in 1899 was admitted to practice law and opened an office in Walnut. Besides practicing law he was active in public affairs, served as secretary of the Walnut Board of Education, also as a member, and as president, and was mayor of the town of Walnut three terms. In 1914 he was elected representative from Pottawattamie County, was

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.